

Sept. 15, 2000
[H. Con. Res. 319]

LATVIA INDEPENDENCE—10TH ANNIVERSARY

Whereas the United States had never recognized the forcible incorporation of the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the former Soviet Union;

Whereas the declaration on May 4, 1990, of the reestablishment of full sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Latvia furthered the disintegration of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas Latvia since then has successfully built democracy, passed legislation on human and minority rights that conform to European and international norms, ensured the rule of law, developed a free market economy, and consistently pursued a course of integration into the community of free and democratic nations by seeking membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); and

Whereas Latvia, as a result of the progress of its political and economic reforms, has made, and continues to make, a significant contribution toward the maintenance of international peace and stability by, among other actions, its participation in NATO-led peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and Kosovo: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates Latvia on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the reestablishment of its independence and the role it played in the disintegration of the former Soviet Union; and

(2) commends Latvia for its success in implementing political and economic reforms, which may further speed the process of that country's integration into European and Western institutions.

Agreed to September 15, 2000.

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NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG RECOVERY MONTH—SUPPORT

Whereas 26 million Americans currently suffer the ravages of drug or alcohol addiction;

Whereas 85 percent of all crimes are tied to drug or alcohol addiction;

Whereas American taxpayers incurred more than \$150 billion in drug-related criminal and medical costs in 1997 alone—more than they spent on education, transportation, agriculture, energy, space, and foreign aid combined;

Whereas every dollar invested in drug and alcohol treatment yields seven dollars in savings in health care costs, criminal justice costs, and lost productivity costs from job absenteeism, injuries, and subpar work performance;

Whereas treatment for addiction is as effective as treatments for other chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes and high blood pressure;